

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 4. Please cancel claims 2 and 13-16. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A hard disk drive, comprising:

a base plate;

a spindle motor coupled to said base plate;

a disk coupled to said spindle motor;

an actuator arm mounted to said base plate;

a voice coil motor coupled to said actuator arm;

a head coupled to said actuator arm;

a cover plate attached to said base plate to create an internal cavity that contains said head;

a heater located within said internal cavity;

a temperature sensor that can sense a temperature of said internal cavity; and,

a control circuit to control said heater to maintain a temperature of internal cavity to be no less than a threshold temperature, said control circuit includes an amplifier coupled to said heater and a comparator coupled to said amplifier and said temperature sensor.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The hard disk drive of claim 1, wherein said heater is coupled to said base plate.

4. (Currently Amended) The hard disk drive of claim 12, wherein said control circuit includes a switch coupled to said comparator and said amplifier.

5. (Original) The hard disk drive of claim 1, wherein the threshold temperature is approximately 10-15°C.

6. (Original) The hard disk drive of claim 1, further comprising a register that stores the threshold value.

7. (Original) A hard disk drive, comprising:

a base plate;

a spindle motor coupled to said base plate;

a disk coupled to said spindle motor;

an actuator arm mounted to said base plate;

a voice coil motor coupled to said actuator arm;

a head coupled to said actuator arm and said disk;

a cover plate attached to said base plate to create an internal cavity that contains said head;

heater means for heating said internal cavity;

temperature sensor means for sensing a temperature of said internal cavity; and,

control circuit means for controlling said heater to maintain a temperature of said internal cavity to be no less than a threshold temperature.

8. (Original) The hard disk drive of claim 7, wherein said control circuit means includes an amplifier coupled to said heater and a comparator coupled to said amplifier and said temperature sensor means.

9. (Original) The hard disk drive of claim 7, wherein said heater means is coupled to said base plate.

10. (Original) The hard disk drive of claim 8, wherein said control circuit means includes a switch coupled to said comparator and said amplifier.

11. (Original) The hard disk drive of claim 7, wherein the threshold temperature is approximately 10-15°C.

12. (Original) The hard disk drive of claim 7, wherein said control circuit means includes a register that stores the threshold value.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)